

EAST YORKSHIRE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER 15

SUMMER 2006

NEWS FROM THE SOCIETY

PROGRAMME

SATURDAY AFTERNOON 9 SEPTEMBER 2006

Venue: Pickering.

Guide: John Rushton will take us on an easy tour of this thriving market town.

Time 2.00pm. Meet outside the Public Library in the Ropery.

Cost £2.50. Plenty of cafes.

THURSDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2006

Venue: A day in Heslington, York.

a) Keith Holt has arranged a visit to the new Borthwick Record Office. We will go round in groups and see special documents relating to our later tour.

b) Professor Edward Royle of the University of York will take us on a tour of Heslington Hall and the village of Heslington.

Time: Meet at 10.30am outside the new Record Office.

Cost £5

A Map will be sent to those booking. Please come prepared for all-weather walk!

SATURDAY 21 OCTOBER 2006

Venue: Peter Harrison Room, Beverley Minster Parish Centre.

Topic: Garden Villages, comparing the local ones to those in other parts of England.

Speaker: Jane Pietrusiak.

Time: 2.15pm

Cost: £2.50.

Short articles, illustrated or unillustrated, for inclusion in future newsletters should be sent to the editor.

Due to a change in personal circumstances contributions should only be sent to Clumber Street, not James Reckitt Library.

Review of EYLHS Events

B.O.C.M. Village on 29 April 2006

As a former resident of the village I found the area had changed very little in the last 70 years. The trees had grown, and most of the houses had new window frames, and that was about all that had been done. As we walked round the area a resident told us that the inner walls were made of engineering bricks, maybe this is why they have survived so well, when so many of houses on the nearby council estate are having to be replaced.

The talk by Mr. Joseph informed us of the history of the area, having, been started in the 1920s and something of the background of B.O.C.M. They encourage their employees and their families to take part in a wide range of sports at the recreation field and at Pearson's Institute in New Cleveland Street from Rugby to Small Bore Rifle Shooting.

Margaret Marshall

Based in Hull it is not always easy to keep track of events in other parts of the Riding; news that members could contribute on their town or village should be sent to the editor.

Hunmanby Grange on 22 June 2006

Nearly 50 members visited the Hunmanby Grange garden and micobrewery. Our hosts were Gill and Tom Mellor who divided our party into two groups for the tours of the garden and the brewery.

Hunmanby Grange is a working farm on an exposed open site and the garden was started in 1983 by Gill. She has continued to expand it, allowing for the prevailing westerly winds that can be extremely damaging and destructive. Windbreaks have been established in the form of hedges and fences shaping the area into a series of smaller gardens.

There are many different themes including a pond and gravel area, a laburnum tunnel, a shrub bank, a coppice wood, a herb/fragrant garden, a winter garden, island beds, lawns etc. Gill emphasised the importance of having long term plans for a garden and her foresight has helped to create a wonderful series of features which has taken into account the exposure to the winds and the chalk soil.

Wold Top Brewery, is one of Yorkshire's newest microbreweries that commenced production in 2003. Tom's initial research into brewing started in 1997. The farm had its own borehole for water established in 1937 and now has a second one specifically for the brewery. The farm produces high class malting barley and although the hops are from elsewhere it is possible that in the future that they will grow their own. This will make them self-sufficient except for the malting process. Their aim is to produce consistently high quality beers using traditional methods and the very best ingredients sourced from their own farm.

There were plenty of opportunities to ask both gardening and brewing questions and the tours finished with a chance to buy plants and sample the local brew. It was a very successful and interesting evening and it is well worth a return visit. (The garden and nursery are open on Wednes-

day afternoons from April to September and at other times by appointment. The microbrewery is also by appointment.)

Maureen and Mike Noddings

WISE, Oriel Chambers on 10 June 2006

Anticipation of Wilberforce 2007, curiosity, or escape from World Cup Football ensured a good attendance at Oriel Chambers in Hull's High Street; now home to WISE - Hull University's Wilberforce Institute for the Study of Slavery and Emancipation.

We were greeted by Professors Mike Turner and David Richardson - the 'Two Wise Men' - who gave interesting presentations. Prof. Turner illustrated the multi-million pound refurbishment and extension which has transformed this Listed Victorian office building into a research and study centre with modern facilities. Prof. Richardson outlined the Institute's role:- a home for Britain's premier postgraduate researchers, bringing together history, law, politics, human rights and social justice; building worldwide research and learning networks; not an archive of original source material, rather it will service and develop an electronic and digital archive giving ready access to collections of such material. The continuance of slavery, though outlawed, was acknowledged but WISE is not a campaigning body; its role is to 'inform change' through research and learning. We then explored the building from basement to roof. A major benefit of EYLHS membership is access to areas denied to the public. New paint and furnishings contrasted with features of an earlier age - from Powerpoint amid the ornate plasterwork to flipcharts by C19 firesurrounds. There are surprising survivors considering the building's earlier commercial history:- C19 Chinoiserie wallpaper; a cooking range by King & Co. (evidence of a former resident caretaker); quadrant corner cupboards with curved doors (concealing washbasins); the quirky wooden lid/window cill hinged to reveal a lead-lined rainwater gutter passing through the building!; tiny clenched fist ventilator

controls; and in the attic (now a meeting room) the gable wall, incorporating flues with a relieving arch, built of C18/early C19 handmade bricks, i.e. predating the 1879 Oriel Chambers (reused from an earlier building on site?).

Those of us with cameras were delighted - I became so engrossed I was the last visitor to leave (and nearly locked in!)

Slavery and Wilberforce were never far away. Chairs depicting the iconic 'Kneeling enslaved African' with the slogan "Am I not a Man and a Brother"; a printed notice on a professorial study door warns "Flogging will continue until morale improves"! Upper floor windows offer superb views of Wilberforce House, next door, with Keyworth's 1884 statue in its garden, and even sight of the 1834 statue of Wilberforce on its column.

My abiding image from the visit was the sunlit white statue of Wilberforce casting a black shadow - under the sun, whatever the colour of our skin, do we not all cast the same shadow?

Chris Mead

The Old Town on 11 May 2006

On a sunny afternoon in May the group met at the Andrew Marvell statue in the Market Place. It was clear that it was a popular visit and we split into two smaller groups.

My group went first to the Minerva Masonic Lodge, Dagger Lane. You would pass the plain brick building dozens of times, as I have, without knowing what was inside. We were shown the ornate meeting room on the first floor and given an insight into the organisation and history of the Masons. The building holds lots of memorabilia from the Minerva and other Lodges. It was particularly interesting to me because my late father's name was on the Roll of Honour of Past Masters of the Lodge of St. Michael. He was Eric Hall, a local architect. After a reviving cup of tea at Café 10½ we made our way through the archway at the

side of the cafe into Prince St. It is such an elegant curved terrace of 18th century houses and we were made very welcome at the home of Helen Good. We could explore the house and were shown photographs and plans of the house and street through the years. We finished our visit in the flower filled communal courtyard behind the house, a small oasis so near the shops and offices of the area.

The relatively small area of the Market Place, bounded by Holy Trinity Church and the Old Grammar School, including the streets off the square have a wealth of interest for anyone interested in local history and we thoroughly enjoyed our visit to two of the buildings.

Gill Blacksell

Two Holderness Letters

by Martin Craven

Postal historians differ from philatelists in that their main concern is not with postage stamps but with postmark cancellations, which tell the story of the mail's transmission through the post. Both types of collectors, however, have a common interest in acquiring old letters, particularly since the use of envelopes did not become common practice until the late 1840s, some years after Rowland Hill's introduction of the famous penny black stamp on 6 May 1840.

Most of the surviving letters from the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, which fall into the hands of collectors, deal with commercial matters of trade or are solicitors' letters concerning legal business. Only rarely does one have the joy of finding, and being able to purchase, family letters which allow a privileged glimpse into the lives of the writers. Recently I was delighted to find two such letters, with the added bonus that they were both sent from Holderness. Written in very different circumstances and thirty years apart, they

both serve as mirrors into a distant age, described by Gilbert and Sullivan as 'Good King George's golden days'.

A letter from Sigglesothorne Rectory

My first letter was written by a lady. All we know of her identity is contained in a particularly formal signature 'T. Brand'. We may surmise that she is a single lady, probably in her late twenties or early thirties. The letter is addressed to her cousin, Mrs Susan Carr, who lived in the village of Hadstock, near Linton in Cambridgeshire. If we allow ourselves the liberty to call the writer 'Miss Brand', we find her on tour and staying with the Reverend Robert Wharton, rector of Sigglesothorne and his family at the recently built rectory house in that Holderness village near Hornsea.

The rectory had, in fact, been built by Robert Wharton's predecessor, the Rev. Thomas Constable (1704-62) of Wassand. Thomas was presented to the living of Sigglesothorne in 1766 by King George III and in the following year he set about the task of demolishing the old rectory and replacing it by a new mansion. It was said that the work cost £1,700, a very large sum of money for those days, but one which Thomas Constable met at his own expense¹.

Thomas Constable died in 1786 and his memorial can be seen inside St. Lawrence's church at Sigglesothorne. In succession, the King granted the living to Robert Wharton. The background to this cleric has not been traced but he clearly came to Holderness in prosperous circumstances. In time he was to fall out with the lord of the manor over a matter of tithes. In 1796, Marmaduke Constable (died 1812) of Wassand wrote a pamphlet against the rector, who was insisting on his tithes being paid in kind rather than in money. Of the Rev. Wharton Constable wrote:

'Mr. Wharton's private fortune is probably greater than the private fortunes of all the preceding Rectors of Sigglesothorne put together'².

This argument, however, was some years in the future. Our letter was written at the rectory on a warm, summer's day, to be precise the 18th July 1789. Inevitably, when reading through this letter, we should love to have more intimate details, especially concerning Miss Hill's sensational behaviour at Cambridge. Alas, we must be satisfied with what Miss Brand wrote down that day. I find the tone delightful and truly Jane Austen-like in every word: -

To: Mrs. Susan Carr
Hadstock near Linton
Cambridgeshire.

Sigglesothorne, July 18. [1789]

Dear Susan,

I was very glad to receive a letter from you here as I had almost despaired of hearing from you. I came to Whartons on Tuesday and you will easily believe it to be the pleasantest part of all my Tour. He met me at Beverley & brought me here in his chaise. After all his various disappointments he is most happily situated in a pleasant country & a house fit for a man of 1000 a year. It was built by his predecessor & contains two excellent rooms, a good study, a large kitchen & commodious offices on the ground floor. He has two large gardens & an orchard & a piece of pleasure ground round the house which would do honour to the great gardener at Bartlow & 50 acres of Glebe contiguous to the house. Five cows furnish him with Milk, Butter & Cheese: Four horses revel in a neat stable & their only labour is to draw a Chaise or carry their Master & Mistress. Ducks, Geese, Turkeys and Fowls make a most harmonious chorus in the poultry yard & all that Man can wish or desire is here in abundance. Mrs. Wharton is a pretty little woman & Annie an absolute Epitome of Mirth & good humour, delighting in Mime and Fun. Dick Wharton too is here waiting for the Assizes at York where he sports the Barrister's Wig for the first time. He is no small addition to our party.

We breakfast about 9. We read or walk or amuse ourselves as we like till about 12 when we ride down to the Seaside (abt. 3 miles) & bathe. We dine at 3 : we laugh the rest of the day, sup early & have a little

music after supper – Such is the life we lead – happy shall I be when I can get anything like such an establishment of my own. But it is not [to] be expected for I really never saw so good a habitation for a Parson during all my Perigrinations.

I shall stay here until I get a Summons from Mr. Lipycatt to meet him & Ld. Bruce at York which will probably be about this day sen'night (*sic*). You had better direct your next to me at Durham to be left at the Post office, but you must answer sooner than you did last or I shall miss it.

I hope you will have better weather during the remainder of the Summer that you may show our Aunts all the beauties of Hadstock. Your journey to Cambridge made me smile .. but how could you suppose a man in blue breeches to be your brother?



Plate 1 *Sigglesothorne Rectory, built in 1767 for Thomas Constable at a cost of £1,700. (A photograph taken by the author in 2006 and reproduced by kind permission of Mr. & Mrs. A. Marr.)*at Cambridge by Dick Wharton's account.

Miss Hill I find has made a great sensation I have been once more to Studley & Hackfa... . I remember the time when I thought the latter could not be exceeded in any Country. L^d. Bruce is now of the same opinion – Alas! that same travelling changes ones ideas upon almost every subject!

My Love to all at Bartlow & Hadstock.
Yours most affectionately

T. Brand

If Dr. & Mrs. Bates are with you, make my Comp^{ts}. to them & tell him I am very much oblig'd to him for his letter.

(Posted and handstamped at Beverley; London 'in transit' date stamp 23 July 1789.)

A letter from Grimston Garth

Much of the character of James Ward, the writer of my second Holderness letter, can be gleaned simply by reading the words penned to his employer, Thomas Grimston (1753-1821), the squire of Kilwick Hall and Grimston Garth. Adjectives like honest, dependable, capable and practical easily spring to mind to describe this estate steward, often left to his own devices through the frequent absences of his master. James Ward's period of tenure as steward at Grimston Garth has not been fully traced, but judging from surviving letters, he was in place at least as early as January 1816 and as late as April 1827 when he sent condolences to Charles Grimston³ on the occasion of the death of Charles's mother, Frances, the widow of Thomas Grimston⁴.

When Edward Ingram researched the Grimston family letter and wrote his book *Leaves from a Family Tree* in 1951, he was able to see 'a fine pencil sketch' of James Ward but sadly, this sketch does not now appear to have been deposited with the Grimston papers at the East Riding Archives. Ingram described the steward as showing 'a strong face with a firm mouth and respectful old-fashioned mien'. That Ward was entirely trusted by the Grimston family is clear from the fact that in addition to his estate duties, he would also drive the 13 children of Charles Grimston down to the coast, to bathe in the sea⁵.

How this letter, written to Thomas Grimston at London on 10 May 1819, escaped from the family papers is not known. In the East Riding Archives are a number of letters written by Ward to Thomas Grimston. They

all begin 'Honoured Sir', and mainly deal with aspects of animal and arable husbandry on the Grimston farm⁶. But Ward's duties also included work in the house itself, where he organised local painters to decorate the rooms, or negotiated with Hedon merchants for the supply of coal to the hall.

Grammar, punctuation and spelling were clearly not James Ward's forte. I have left the spelling as written in the original letter but have commenced new sentences with capital letters and added punctuation marks to assist with the reading. As Ward wrote and spelt words as they sounded in the broad 'Holderness tone' of the day, we can almost hear him speaking to us in this letter.

To: Thomas Grimston Esqr.
Messrs. Crozers & Co.⁷
Panton Square
Haymarket
London
Grimston, May the 10th. 1819

Honoured Sir,

I received your letter Dated the 23rd. of April and I now write a few Lines to Let you know Sir of all the particulars here –

I think Sir, I never saw the Fruit trees appear to have so much Fruit on them before as they are Likely to have at present. I Dont think that the Cold winds has Done them any Harm, though the winds has been very cold & cutting from the east. Our pastures is very short at present but we have had a very fine Shower of rain last night and I hope we shall have some more rain soon, and it has been fine and warm to day. If it continues such wether as it is now, I hope we shall soon have good pastures.

The Bricklayer is coulouring the house at present and I think he is making it Look very neat. The ceilings is all in very good order excepting the two triangles going in to your Library, Sir, and my Mrs. Dressing room and the Ladys Made room. The north west tower and any places that there is in any of the other, wich is very trifeling, I shall order the Bricklayer to Do. The Kitching want coulouring very Much Sir, if you would wish to have it Done.

The underdraining will be Finished this week and it Looks very well in general. There is some of them were Sods Looks rather brown owing to the Dryness of the wether, but the wether has been very favourable for us Leading stones and thorns. It has done no harm to the ground the master Drainer said. He will bound for never any warter to stand up on the ground now, if only the Ditches be kept in proper order. They want a great Deal doing to them. I have let them to the Drainer to Do as all their work would have been good for nothing if the Ditches had not been Done properly. They have Drained some of the Low side next the Lodge Feild with rods, that is out of sight of the House. The new pond has got a Deal of water into it, but not quite full. I think you will be scarce able to know where the old one has been, Sir.

The grey cart mare, Sir, that I thought was with Foal all along, has proved to the contrary. She has now missed two years to Sir Lancelot. I have put her this year to providence, the Sire of the little Brown mare at Kilwick and we have a chance with sir Lancelot for paying a guinea. I have put the Black cart Mare to him that was bought at Sproatley, wich I think is as Likely to breed as good a foal to him, or Better than the grey mare. I hope Sir that you will not think that I have Done wrong for I forgot to mention them when I rote Last. I have Done to the best of my knowledge.

I am very Sorry Sir to have to Inform you that my wife is very unwell at present and has been obliged to have Medical assistance. Mr. Raines⁸ has attended her For this Last three weeks past and he says she will never be able to do the work that she has to Do when the Family is here. She is so weak he says, that if she was begin to Do it, she would sink under it. But I hope she will be better soon.

I hear that old Mr. Simpson of Roos is very ill and not Likely to Continue Long.

I shall be Forced to trouble you Sir For a little More Money to pay to the Drainers on account. There is ... of them now and I pay them 4 guineas a week. Johnson & Steers 15s. eacch per week. I should wish to Do as Little as posiblely I can, Sir, I cannot Do with any less sum than a bout 40 pounds if you please Sir.

All the stock is very well here excepting the young Mule and I can scarce tell wether it will get Better or no. I think, Sir, we shall be likely for to have a Deal of game this year, for I never saw so Many old ones at this time of year, both hares, partridges & pheasants. I saw a few Days Back 10 hen pheasants and one cock by the plantation at Frount of the House, and I remain, Sir, your Most obedient Servant.

James Ward

(Letter handstamped at Hull, 11 May 1819 and reached the London GPO two days later.)



Plate 2 *Grimston Garth*, designed by John Carr for Thomas Grimston, built 1787. (A photograph taken by the author in 2004 and reproduced by kind permission of Mr. & Mrs. O. Marriott.)

Notes

1. N. Pevsner and D. Neave, *The Buildings of England, Yorkshire: York and the East Riding*, Penguin Books, 1995, p.682.
2. N. Wright, *History of Sigglesthorpe*, privately published, 1966, p.20.
3. Charles Grimston 1791-1859.
4. M.E. Ingram, *Leaves from a Family Tree*, A. Brown & Sons Ltd., Hull, 1951, p.151.
5. *Ibid.* P.150.
6. James Ward's letters to Thomas Grimston are archives at ERRAS, Beverley under DDGR 43 and 44.
7. The connection between Messrs. Croziers & Co. and Thomas Grimston has not been discovered. Panton Square no longer exists but was sited just north of Coventry Street, close by Piccadilly Circus. Information ex. Mr. & Mrs. Marriott in a letter to the author, 18 August 2004.

8. This is probably Isaac Raines MD of Burton Pidsea (born 1778). For the Raines family, see G. Poulson, *History and Antiquities of the Seignory of Holderness*, 1840, vol. II, p.45.

Anti-Catholicism in the Town and County of Kingston-upon-Hull

by Jirina Berankova

Before we start to examine the extent of the anti-Catholic feelings of the Hull population, let us remind ourselves briefly of the town's history. The town of Hull comprised an extended tract of land designated the 'County of Hull', a status granted to the town by the king in mid-fifteenth century. Hull was among the boroughs in England that conformed to the new religion quite soon after its establishment by Henry VIII; the local gentry was mostly loyalist and the area largely avoided major disturbances¹. It was at this time also, that the blockhouses were set up in Hull as part of the defences for the town and its vital port². However, Catholic faith survived in the villages and remote manors surrounding Hull³ and, as we shall see in this article, even in Hull itself, though "Hull did not have the leaven of Catholic gentry that kept the old religion alive in the East Riding."⁴

Apart from being the base of English monarchs for their military operations against Scotland, Hull was also a port and market town with foreign trade. After the union of the two Kingdoms the importance of Hull as a military base started to fade⁵, but its importance as a trading port was still very relevant. It like the port of London needed to be protected from foreign attack or subversion. It is interesting to note that during the Great Fire of London, the Mayor and Aldermen never suspected the French Catholics or Jesuits of the malicious deed,

as was otherwise usual among Protestant Englishmen⁶ at the time. A watch was set in the port thereafter, to prevent any unknown ship from coming into the port⁷ a precaution often taken after a fire and it is also many times ordered by the Hull Bench that no-one is to use fire aboard ship while in harbour. The frequent recurrence of the same order implies that it was not very effectively enforced.

For the English Protestants in the second part of the seventeenth century it was extremely easy to see popery almost everywhere. Not so long before the emergence of the Popish Plot revelations Andrew Marvell, one of the two MPs for Kingston-upon-Hull, published his *Account of the Growth of Popery*. This might well have been, as is argued in “The Occasion for Marvell’s *Growth of Popery*” by Dean M. Schmitter⁸, a reaction to the wedding of Mary, daughter of the Duke of York to William of Orange, which he suspected to be a plot, devised by Louis XIV and Charles II to avert the eyes of the nation from a gradual rapprochement with France. Whatever was seen to be suspicious was immediately examined and compared with various incidents from the past, to ensure that the danger of popery would be avoided in the future and such a pattern can be seen at every level of society.

Anti-Catholicism in news and letters: Keeping in touch with the Capital

The course of Charles II’s reign was quite peaceful in Hull. The town naturally inclined towards the protestant Duke of Monmouth, and kept correspondence with him⁹, mostly about military matters during the 70s. In November 1678, a rumour was heard that there were a number of papists in Monmouth’s Regiment, which was to be lodged in the town¹⁰. The rumour had reached Hull even before a letter with the same information from the town’s remembrancer in London, Mr Robert Stockdale, who wrote regular letters to the corporation with information on the latest, mostly politi-

cal, proceedings in both Houses of the Parliament, London, and, relevant matters from the kingdom at large. In his letter of the 19th of November 1678, he informs the corporation about a Regiment that is supposed to be ordered to march towards Hull, and among the officers there are four papists (captains of companies)¹¹. The whole information about the regiment is very confused, as Stockdale himself as well as his informers seem not to know what exactly was or was not ordered. However, the Mayor and Aldermen were already reassured in a letter dated the 12th November, by one of Hull’s MPs, Col. Gilby, that the rumours were not truthful, and we can assume, that the whole issue soon subsided, as Col. Gilby stressed that there were no papists among the soldiers, and all the officers had taken the Oath¹². The Bench Book nevertheless presents us with other – this time not just imagined – problems that a lodging host of troops might bring, i.e. debts, illegitimate children and disorder generally. Here it might be mentioned that according to the official correspondence with the Corporation it seems that Gilby and Stockdale were not getting on well with each other as in another (earlier, but of the same period) of his numerous letters, Stockdale complains about Gilby not trusting him¹³.

Robert Stockdale, as indicated above, informed the Corporation about matters in London. The letters preserved cover two periods, 1660-1671 and autumn 1678 – 1679. He mostly writes about matters that were of highest interest to the Corporation, ships and trade, expeditions to distant lands and about matters of the Corporation of London. However, he also tells the burghesses the latest news, which sometimes could almost be labelled as gossip, and in a number of his letters he also enclosed the Gazette, so that he did not have to write everything himself, and gave full information on the most current topics, or when there was a document of especial interest published in the Gazette. On several occasions he mentions no news in his letter whatsoever, writing only that the Corporation will find the information “inclosed”¹⁴. Through him was the tragedy of Sir Edmun-

dberry Godfrey was brought directly to the town; Stockdale's reaction is immediate and he writes back to Hull that Godfrey was an "antient friend and acquaintance" of his¹⁵. He is quite well informed about Godfrey's last movements and horrified by the terrible termination of Godfrey's life, these impressions he immediately transmits to the readers of his letter. Stockdale could thus point up the importance of the Popish Plot and touch the feelings of his fellow townsmen in a more personal way by referring to Godfrey as a friend.

As indicated above, Colonel Gilby occasionally informed the Bench as well, though his main duty was to present the opinions and problems of the town in Parliament. He was the mediator between the town officials and the Parliament and he provided communication between the two parties. He also had to mediate the demands of the two sides on each other and perhaps temper the town's demands when he put them in context of the situation of the whole kingdom; and then communicate the Parliament's decisions and opinions to the bench, who were always eager to be seen and "known of" in Parliament. In the case of a prisoner called Awdus, this was exactly what he had to do. Naturally he tried to defend the importance of the case to his town, but he also had to understand the difference between the significance of an individual and the needs of the kingdom.

The Awdus case

A case in Hull with a clear papist dimension is that of a man named Awdus, who was imprisoned in Hull during the Popish plot. In the same letter from Col. Gilby that clarifies rumours about a partly Catholic regiment coming to Hull, it is also mentioned, that a man called Awdus was seized while drinking in a Hull public house, because he "drank to the King's confusion". Gilby expresses his high concern and asks the Corporation for further information about the trial and the man, so that he can present them to the Parliament¹⁶. Awdus made his subversive comment in November 1678, perhaps shortly after the news of

Popish Plot and its consequences reached Hull, and one of the two Hull's MPs, Colonel Anthony Gilby, tried to put his case to Parliament¹⁷. Gilby was asked to bring the papers to Lord Monmouth, in the light of the news in London -- "...in these two dayes greate discourses haue been made of that Barbarous Murther of Sr Edmundbarry Godfrey..."¹⁸. The murder of Godfrey, as soon as the news spread, was ascribed by protestants to the evil proceedings of Catholics and Jesuits in particular, and it seemed to confirm all of Oates's and Tonge's information. In minds firmly set against Catholics, there seemed to be little doubt, and thus could Gilby continue in his letter: "now, noe man certainly can doubt of the truth thereof, nor consequently of the design of distroyinge the King's Religion and Gouernment."¹⁹ At first, Gilby in his letters to the Mayor and Aldermen demands caution and hints that there might be a serious case made out of it, and has the Examination sent to him in London which he then presents to the Committee²⁰. However, in the end he is told by the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee that this case is not serious enough to be dealt with at that high level and would only delay more serious issues that needed to be dealt with. Unfortunately, this is the only mention of a person called Awdus in our period in the Hull City Archives. If we try to search for the family name in other documents, in the Parish register of St Mary's Lowgate we can find that on the 17th of September 1667, a Thomas Audus married a Katherine Frankland²¹, however there is no other record either in the baptismal or burial registers; an Awdus (Audas/Audus) family can later be traced in the High Street of Hull, (1731), when a man, this time called Joseph Audas and his wife Sarah are in the year 1731 recorded as inhabitants of a house at 118 High Street, Hull²². Outside Hull we learn there was a yeoman named Joseph Awdus in Howden and a John Awdus in Bridlington²³, however, with none of these records or reference can we make any connection with the Awdus affair.

Church-going

Apart from this one case of disorderly behaviour and offence that could be regarded as at least very close to high treason, which made Col. Gilby and the Mayor and Aldermen spend a considerable amount of ink and paper and managed to have it brought before a House of Commons' Committee, there were also other people in the town of Hull, accused of popery. There are two surviving reports about people or families missing the Sunday service held at their parish church.

If we study these documents in chronological order; first is the letter 'To the Churchwardens of St Mary parish within the Towne of Kingston upon Hull'²⁴, written on 14th November 1663, informing the churchwardens, that

'the several persons hereunder named being Inhabitants and parishioners of and within yor said parish stand duely convikt for that on the first day and the eight day of this present month of November beeing sundays neither they nor any of them did diligently & faithfully endeavor themselves to resort to their said p[ar]ish Church nor in lett hereof to some other usuall place where common prayer and sayd service of God contrary to the Statute in that case lately sett.'²⁵

The persons named were to appear at the next general quarter sessions, where their case would be assessed and if they did not give sufficient excuse, they would be duly prosecuted. There are four widows, seven married couples, four men and one woman. None of the names appears anywhere else. Their reasons for missing the services may be various and therefore it cannot be stated, whether they are recusants of any denomination (non-conformists or Roman Catholics), or whether there was some serious business that prevented them from coming to the Church. A little more informative is the only surviving list of people, who repeatedly failed to attend at Holy Trinity Church.

This list, apparently written for personal use or as a draft, presents us with the following

names: Thomas Chambers and his wife, John Key, their servant, Jeremiah Watson and his wife and Ann Chambers, John Friston, John Bearebridge and his wife, John Winspeare and his wife, Edward Radforth and his wife, Richard Emerson and his wife, John Willson and his wife, George Morwood and his wife, John Robinson and his wife, Tymothy Lum and his wife, John Maltby and Joseph Raykes. Out of these people, most are marked as 'confesseth', apart from Joseph Raykes, Alderman, who 'was sicke', John Maltby, who was in another church (it is stated where, however the paper is damaged); so the only missing people without a valid excuse are George Morwood, Richard Emerson, John Winspeare and John Friston. The last named has also a remark at the end of his entry, that he 'pade' but after that the paper is again missing²⁶. This list is dated by Stanewell²⁷ in his *Calendar* into the 1670s and is greatly damaged by damp; it was written for the personal use of the churchwarden or the person who was responsible for church attendance, or as a draft, so it is not very clearly written. Both these lists may, however, serve as a proof, that there were Catholics in Hull, and that they were dealt with. In respect of proceedings in other places it can be also said, that prosecutions were on a regular basis and that this list must be one out of many. It would be wrong, however, to assume, that all those listed above refusing to come to church, were of the Roman Catholic persuasion. Those that 'confesseth but refuseth' could have been of any other denomination that had their members in Hull, mostly it was the Society of Friends, the Quakers.

John Friston and Mary Morley

The only person from the said list that appears also in other documents dealing with papism is Joseph Friston. He was dealt with by the Mayor and Aldermen's Bench during the Popish Plot crisis, and it is explicitly said about him, that he is a 'papist professt.'²⁸ On Thursday, 14th November 1678, that is around the time Awodus was tried, we suppose shortly after that,

'a complaint hath been made to this court that John Friston of this Towne Taylor and Mary Morley now the wife of Leiuetenant Erwin being both Papists p[ro]fesst and of ill report and keeping publique Alehouses and havinge diverse dangerous p[ro]fsions resortinge to their houses and have suffered company sitt tiplinge and drinkinge in their houses at unseasonable times in the night, and that yesterday beinge a fast day app[ointed]ted by his Majestie and Council'²⁹

which they did not observe and therefore the Bench sent them to the court which forbade them to brew ale in any of their houses or sell it. This report is also striking by the plain fact that it could happen that a Papist, who should have been deprived of any office or large possession, could have possessed a number of public houses within the walls of a very Protestant town, moreover, to run them and keep perhaps Catholic company within. As a tailor of the town, Joseph Friston had to be a freeman, and indeed, his name does appear in the Freeman Rolls³⁰, stating that he entered among the free men of the town in July 1664. He is the only person of the name of Friston in the lists. In the list of persons absent from the Holy Trinity Church, he is also mentioned as an officer³¹.

Quarter Sessions

Since the Quarter Sessions Books relating to Hull and its County for our period are lost, many of the actual records of dealings with Catholicism and punishment for it are lost as well. Some matters can be found in the Hull Corporation Bench Book, some more among the miscellaneous charters preserved in the City Archives. The Bench books for our period and also records for assizes do notice some recusants, of which some were accused of popery. The Bench books mention Roman Catholics only during the Popish Plot crisis, and even in this period very rarely. During the time of the crisis people were much more sensitive to any sign of Roman Catholicism and therefore there caution was elevated and every appearance of popery required immediate

action. Thus we read in the Bench Book record of Saturday, 4th of January 1678(9) that

"This day severall recusants within this Towne and county thereof have entered Recognizace to appeare before his Maiesities Justice at the next general quarter sessions..."³²

Who could these people be, we can only guess. Nevertheless we may assume that they did appear in the Quarter sessions held on May 1st 1679 and that they were recorded and paid their fines as appropriate, and perhaps the measures taken went even further, because of the extreme caution which came after the "revelations" that resulted from the Popish Plot. However, here we find ourselves in the field of mere guesses and constructions.

Conclusion

Thus the Awdus case provides us with a proof that there were Roman Catholics in Hull during the Restoration Period, and together with the case of Joseph Friston and the group of recusant inhabitants it also proves, that these people were townspeople, who belonged to the borough. Unfortunately, there is not much more that can be found about them. The efforts by the Corporation and Gilby, to put Awdus's case through parliament indicates, how much the Popish Plot alerted Protestants and how it radicalized public thought. The frenzy that caught the kingdom was not exclusive to places inhabited by Catholics on a larger scale, but covered the whole kingdom. The years 1678/79 are the only period, when the Bench book does mention proceedings against papists, in other years there are only financial or financially based matters that were discussed by the Mayor and Aldermen. The Corporation was nevertheless prepared to defend the town, and deal with Roman Catholics as enemies, when they seemed to be threatening, but also was prepared to negotiate with them, as with Christopher Bacon, when they needed to approach Lord Langdale through him. As said above, the number of Roman

Catholics in Hull was not high, but this fact did not place them in a more favourable position nor make them less dangerous in the eyes of Protestant inhabitants. On the contrary they may have been more visible to local society, though perhaps interchangeable with the other recusants.

During the reign of James II the office of High Steward of the Town was granted to a Roman Catholic and the town was not particularly happy about it. However, the precise significance of his, Bellasis', faith in the extent of the town's suspicion or antipathy towards their Lord High Steward is uncertain, and moreover the effect of the belief that he was one of those that were suspected to have supported the Meal Tub Plotters³³, is only to be guessed at.

The situation of Catholics in Hull during the Restoration period is extremely difficult to assess in a more profound way. Hull had been a protestant town for a long time by the period we are interested in; however, this did not mean that there were no Catholics in Hull at all. Hull as such – the city represented by Mayor and Aldermen, did perform anti-Catholic actions, as all protestants authorities did. People charged with recusancy or popery were sent to the quarterly sessions and tried, fines were paid on a regular basis. During the Popish Plot period, the town was very cautious and any action that was suspicious was dealt with immediately. In this period also fall the few obvious cases of persecuting supposedly Roman Catholic inhabitants of the Town of Hull. We can only suppose, that these were not the only ones, however, but for our period, most of the records are lost. Outside the town of Hull were dispersed Catholic families, on their estates or in small villages, such as the Bacons in Ferriby³⁴. One tries to distinguish people belonging only to the City and County of Hull and those, who have connections with many places in the north. A specific section of the Catholic inhabitants connected to Hull are those members of the gentry in surrounding counties that own land in the County of Hull. The Catholic Ellerkers of Lumley Castle have land in Willerby and Kirkella, and there are persons named Ellerker recorded

to be living in Kirkella; the Constables of Burton Constable(near Sproatley) sheltered Hull's nearest priest³⁵. In a few publications, a Mass-house in Hull is mentioned³⁶. However, the diocesan archives in Middlesbrough have no material preserved from our period³⁷. In the Hull University archives there are records of the Constable-Maxwell family³⁸ and other landed families from areas close to Hull, but their actual connection to Hull in our period is not strong, if any at all.

Thus the records of Catholics vary, and usually give only names, if any details at all, and there is a general scarcity of them. The overall impression is that the City and County of Hull was Protestant to its core, as a contrast to a quite recusant Yorkshire or more specifically, the immediately neighbouring East Riding³⁹. On first sight, the life of a Roman Catholic in a very Protestant environment must have been very hard, and all the authors agree on this⁴⁰ but if we take a closer look, we see, that the Catholics of Hull can be found basically in all levels of society, among the Aldermen of the City⁴¹, through owners of public houses, and members of guilds, down to practically untraceable individuals possibly among the inhabitants not free of a particular trade or craft, or just visitors from surrounding villages or towns. In other places in the North, as Hugh Aveling put it, Catholics (mainly Catholic gentry) do appear in the Bench and Assize books regularly throughout the 60s and 70s, being tried for threats, fights and bodily violence, and for expressing opinions against the King and religion in public houses⁴². On a much smaller scale, this was experienced in the given time span in Hull, too.

Gordon Jackson in his *Hull in the Eighteenth Century* says that "Roman Catholicism has been dealt a near-mortal blow by the troubles of the seventeenth century, culminating in the military occupation of Hull by the Catholic Lord Langdale on the orders of James II."⁴³ The actions we have seen to have been taken were directed towards instilling fear among the possibly Catholic and recusants in the general public. Anti-Catholicism in Hull might not have

had such a wide range of targets as in other parts of Yorkshire, or even the East Riding, however this does not mean that it was less fierce or even non-existent. By this time anti-Catholicism already formed a valid and essential part of the protestant mind.

Notes

1. G. C. F. Forster, "Hull in the 16th and 17th centuries," *The Victoria County History of Yorkshire East Riding, I: The City of Kingston upon Hull*, ed. K. J. Atkinson, (Oxford 1980). It might be noted that among the loyal gentry we can find the names of Ellerker, a family that was or remained Catholic in the 17th century.
2. Forster, (1969) 93, Hirst, *The Blockhouses of Kingston-upon-Hull*, (London – Hull 1913).
3. More in Hugh Aveling, "Post Reformation Catholicism in East Yorkshire 1558-1790," *East Yorkshire Local History Series II* (1960).
4. Gordon Jackson, *Hull in the Eighteenth Century*, (London 1972). 288.
5. Apart from the sad episode from the Civil Wars, of course. Charles I was denied access to the town, which served as royal armoury in the North. The consequences are obvious. The importance of Hull in the history of England is well described in Audrey Howes's and Martin Foreman's *Town and Gun*, (Hull 1999).
6. There are many books on the fire of London, and it is also dealt with in many monographs on anti-Catholicism. From the sources, Pepys gives some information in his *Diary*, otherwise i.e. the *True and Faithfull Account of the Several Informations exhibited to the Right Honourable Committee appointed by the Parliament, to inquire into the late Dreadful Burning of the City of London. Together with other Informations touching the Insolvency of Popish Priests and Jesuites, and the Increase of Popery; brought to the Honourable Committee appointed by the Parliament for the Purpose.* (1667) is a perfect example, which gives testimonies of several people against the French mostly.
7. Hull City Archives (hereafter HCA) BRB5, f68. The reports about precautions taken after the news of the fire are scattered during the relevant months of 1666.
8. D. M. Schmitter, "The Occasion for Marvell's *Growth of Popery*", *Journal of the History of Ideas*, (1960) JSTOR 30.11.2005.
9. There are many notes in the Bench Books about writing a letter to or receiving a letter from 'His Grace'. Of course, the importance of the correspondence made sure that every letter would be mentioned.
10. HCA BRL 902. 12th November 1678.
11. HCA BRL1194(331). 19th November 1678.
12. HCA BRL 902. 12th November 1678.
13. HCA BRL 1194(324). 22nd October 1678.
14. HCA BRL 1194. This happens mostly in the later period of the frenzy of the Plot, which is recorded in letters 330-346.
15. HCA BRL1194(325). 23rd October 1678.
16. HCA BRL 902. 12th November 1678.
17. Ibid.
18. HCA BRL 918. 26th November 1678.
19. Ibid.
20. HCA BRL 905. 23rd November 1678, HCA BRL 908. 28th 1678.
21. Brynmor Jones Archives, The University of Hull (hereafter BJA) DX5/6 p.7.
22. Robert Barnard, *High Street, Hull (1673 – 1798)*. *Work in Progress*, Hull College, 2002. SRL/U18.
23. Beverley Archives zDDX494. National Archives online. <www.a2a.org.uk/> 1.3.2006.
24. HCA BRM 309.
25. Ibid.
26. HCA BRM 332.
27. L. M. Stanewell, *City and county of Kingston upon Hull calendar of the ancient deeds letters miscellaneous old documents, &c., in the archives of the corporation*, (Hull 1951).
28. HCA BRB 5 596.
29. Ibid.
30. HCA BRG 2. f.79r.
31. HCA BRM 332.
32. Hull City Archives (hereafter HCA) BRB5 603.
33. *A True Narrative of the Popish-Plot Against King Charles I. and the Protestant Religion*. London 1680. British Library Rare Books (afterwards BLRB), 23b.945
34. H. Aveling, "Post Reformation Catholics in East Yorkshire" *East Yorkshire Local History Series II* (1960).46 – 57, 65. Since this study deals with the whole of East Riding, it is not very clear on the Catholics exclusively resident in Hull.
35. J. A. Williams, "From Revolution to 'Insurrection'. Hull Catholicism from the 1680s to the 1780." *Keeping Faith. 700 Years of Catholic Life in Hull*.ed. John Markham. (Beverley 1999) 37.
36. Williams (1999) and J. H. Hirst, *The Blockhouses of Kingston-upon-Hull, and who went there*. (London – Hull 1913). Sadly the authors give no information on their sources.
37. Smallwood, David. "Re: Catholicism in Hull." E-mail to Jirina Berankova. 23 Nov. 2005.
38. The Constable-Maxwell Papers can be found under shelfmark DDEV. Our concern narrows the material mostly to DDEV/67 and 68, though some correspondence relating to Restoration period can be found under DDEV/60. The persecution of the family usually refers to York.

39. J. Hansom, "A list of convicted Recusants in the reign of Charles II," *Catholic Records Society, Miscellanea Vol. 6*, (London, pp. 75-326). The list of Catholics in the East Riding spans pages 256-277. It is not an exhaustive list; Hull is not covered at all, but does give some kind of insight. Detailed information on the Catholics in the whole Riding is to be found in H. Aveling's *Northern Catholics* (London 1966), the East Riding Catholic families themselves are more closely dealt with in Aveling's study "Post Reformation Catholicism in East Yorkshire 1558-1790" in *East Yorkshire Local History Series II* (1960). There are also many local publications, issued at various anniversaries, see e.g. *Keeping Faith. 700 years of Catholic Life in Hull*, ed. John Markham, (Beverley 1999), *4 Essays in Yorkshire Catholic History* (n.loc. 1994), M. Craven, 'Faith in adversity': *The Story of the Early Catholic Missions in Holderness, in the East Riding of Yorkshire*, (n.loc. 2004).

40. An overview of the Catholic situation during the Restoration period is to be found in monographs by the following authors: J. Bossy, *The English Catholic Community. 1570 – 1850*, (London 1975); E. Norman, *Roman Catholicism in England*, (Oxford – New York 1985); C. D. R. Leys, *Catholics in England 1559-1829* (New York 1961); F. E. Dolan, *Whores of Babylon* (Ithaca – London 1999), P. Lake's and M. Questier's *Antichrist's Lewd Hat* (New Haven – London 2002) refers to Elizabethan England mostly, but is very useful to understand the scope of Protestant view in daily print. More general views on the English Society can be obtained by well known authors such as Clarke, Trevelyan and many more.

41. This information is given by Hirst, *The Blockhouses of Kingston upon Hull* (Hull 1913), however without giving the source.

42. H. Aveling, *Northern Catholics. The Catholic Recusants of the North Riding of Yorkshire 1558-1790*. (London 1966), 327-328.

43. Jackson (1972), 288.

BOOK REVIEWS

Robert Jones *Reuben Chappell, Pierhead painter* First Light 2006, 160 pp. illustrated throughout with colour black and white illustrations. ISBN 1-84114-545-9/ISBN 978-1-84114-545 7. £29.99 or £40 case bound, £2.50 post and packing. Available from the author

First Light Studio, Bodriggy Farm, 23 Sea Lane Hayle, Cornwall TR27 4LQ; tel. 01736 754697 E-mail robertjones@blue-earth.co.uk; www.firstlightgallery.co.uk. Also at the Hull Maritime Museum Queen Victoria Square, Hull HU1 3DX.

The exhibitions at the National Maritime Museum and the Bristol Museum in 1970 and Goole, Doncaster and Scunthorpe in 1972 show-cased Chappell's work after years of obscurity. They generated a huge interest which persists to the present. In Britain he was the last of the 'Pierhead Artists' of note and was active until his death in 1940 of bronchial pneumonia. At last the valuable research of C.H. Ward-Jackson has been built on and expanded by Robert Jones, himself a marine artist, based in Cornwall the county of his birth. For the first time we are given some substantial biographical background and photographs lent by a descendant gives an image of a dapper dark complexioned young man who matured into a neatly suited individual who might be mistaken for a schoolmaster or professor.

Born in Goole in 1870 the son of a cabinet maker he suffered with chronic bronchitis from an early age and instead of being apprenticed to a maritime trade which he might have preferred he was taken into the studio of a local photographer. He had been encouraged by his father in his boyhood sketching of local shipping and he was employed in hand colouring photographic prints, before advertising on his own account as a photographer and artist. The demand for his painting skill seems to have rapidly outstripped any demand for his photographs and he began his prolific career during which he is estimated to have produced some 12000 pictures!. Initially in oils and later mostly in watercolour and gouache he was able to supply mariners with an image of the boat they sailed on or maybe owned for a modest 2s 6d or 5s, rising to some 12s. 6d by 1925.

These were often painted in the brief period while loading and unloading and were commonly in profile view with some relevant landmark or seamark, such as a lighthouse,

lightship, or recognisable stretch of coast in the background. He frequently painted pairs of paintings showing a vessel in fair and foul weather conditions.

Chappel's chest problems caused him to move to Cornwall with its milder climate where he settled at Par in 1904, apparently encouraged by the fact that many of the Danish seamen who had sailed their craft into Goole also traded into the china clay ports of Par, Fowey and Charlestown. Though there are large numbers of his paintings in Goole and in Hull the largest collections are in Denmark museums in 29 at Marstal and 39 at Troense !

Chappell's work is of particular interest in that he records the last days of sail and many of the short sea and coastal craft largely ignored by 'marine artists' with greater pretensions and which appear only as part of the general scene in the typically romantic photographs of harbours and ports usual at the time. Similarly he captures the vessels of a great many of the small scale steamer companies such as the Bennett Steamship Co. of Goole and the fleet of CWS which carried the raw materials used by this great trading company to supply the factories which made the products sold in their shops throughout Britain.

Robert Jones illustrates a generous sample of the paintings, many in colour, along with a brief history of each craft depicted also recounting some of the stories associated with collisions and wrecks. There are sections covering Goole; the various china clay ports; coastal steamers; Danish sailing craft; West Country ships both the china clay and the fruit traders. Incredibly in 1850 there were no less than 240 schooners carrying fruit, conveying some 60 million oranges and 15 million lemons. Their crew's were cut to the bone, often like the smacks only five men. There are also sections covering the traders to Wales and to Liverpool.

Chappell was also a very competent model maker and his representation of the Cutty Sark which was at Falmouth till 1938, is a treasured possession of the Hon. Company

of Master Mariners aboard the Wellington on the Thames.

The author is to be congratulated on this splendid volume which he has compiled and published himself, which at last does justice to the work of the last of the 'Pierhead Painters'.

Arthur Credland, Hull Maritime Museum

Paul Bright *Air War over East Yorkshire in World War II Flight Recorder Publications*, 2005 (Ashtree House Station Road, Ottringham, E.Yorks. HU12 OBJ) 175pp; illustrated throughout, £24.99p. ISBN 0 954560 7 4

At first sight this might seem an expensive volume but its 175 pages are full A4 size replete with photos., maps, plans and graced by a thoroughly researched text. It tells the complete story of the region's air war from the period of the phoney war to the last air raid on Hull which on 12 March of the final year of the war cost 12 lives. The chain of radar stations vital to our defences are described, the first bombing attacks and combat between the opposing air forces, the Polish contingent at Leconfield, Driffield air field as a target, hit and run raids, the Hull blitz of 1941, the Hull and York Baedeker raids, combating night raiders, forced landings, and the V 1 attacks are all covered.

Photographs include the aircraft involved (in the air and downed), the effects of bombing raids, individual pilots and heroes both civilian and military, contemporary posters and cartoons. Also excellent colour plates of all the principal aircraft involved. It was fascinating to find that one of the most famous images of the war Winston Churchill with a 'tommy gun' was actually taken at the Rolston range East Yorks.

Arthur Credland, 2006

Arthur R.B. Robinson (editor) *Seeking the Scots - an English woman's journey in 1807* 88 pages, illustrated throughout. ISBN 0-955 2692-0-2 (978-0-9552692-0-2); available from the author 2a Brecks-

field, Skelton, York, Y03 IYD, £7.95 plus £1.30 post and packing and 60p. for each additional copy.

Though the journal records a journey through Scotland this publication is a useful addition to our knowledge of the lives and habits of our local merchant families. The author is Philothea Perronet Thompson wife of Thomas Thompson, merchant and banker of Hull. It was written during the year in which the act for the abolition of slavery was passed at Westminster and when Thompson himself was nominated for the Midhurst seat by William Wilberforce's cousin, Lord Carrington.

The archive material available for the merchant families of Hull is generally sparse and since Gordon Jackson's overview of 'Hull in the eighteenth century' the only significant publications which give us some real insights into their lives are Edward Ingram's 'The Maister's of Hull' (1984) and Arthur Robinson's 'The Counting House' (1992) an account of his ancestor Thomas Thompson merchant and banker, and his family.

Mrs. Thompson's eight week journey took her over the border at Coldstream up to Dunkeld and west to Inverary before entering England again at Gretna. Her travels took in much picturesque countryside, historic ruins stately homes, a visit to a muslin factory, the public wash house at Glasgow and a glass manufactory at Dumbarton. She was rowed across Loch Lomond and visited Loch Katrine before it was made famous by Sir Walter Scott in his 'Lady of the Lake'. However Scott's 'Minstrelsy of the Scottish Borders' (1803) had already had some effect and she was told by the pastor of the parish church in Melrose that publication had brought considerable numbers of visitors to the town and the abbey ruins.

A keen observer she describes in detail the clothing of the Scots, of all stations in life from ladies in their finery to the Edinburgh urchins, bare foot or swathed in rags, whose abject poverty she found shocking.

She stayed at Liddel's Lodgings in the capital city surprised to find there were no locks

or bolts on the doors and seventy steps to negotiate up to her room. The fine houses of the Georgian new town - she observes had 3-4 'flats' or storeys in contrast to the tenements of old Edinburgh which were up to 10 storeys. Mrs. Thompson found entirely novel the habit of Glaswegians offering a room to rent by displaying a square card (a 'token') inscribed THIS FLAT - TO LET.

A devout Christian and like her husband a staunch Methodist she gives her considered attention to the clergy she met and whose services she attended. Mostly she found them wanting, through a lack of evangelical zeal, the droning or whining delivery and the poor singing of those present. It was not until she was on her way back home that she had the satisfaction of hearing the preaching of Dr. Isaac Milner, Dean of Carlisle, who had brought William Wilberforce to evangelical Christianity and who was a personal friend of the Thompsons.

Her opinion of Scottish congregations was not high and chides them for a lack of attention during services, frequently passing round their snuff boxes while the sermon was 'demonstrated'. She was also shocked by the apparently casual burial customs, without any graveside ceremony.

The journal was made at an interesting period after the travels of Dr. Johnson and Boswell but before the full flow of tourism, inspired by Scott's writings and the visit to Edinburgh of the Prince Regent which began the 'tartan mania'. The final accolade was given by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert who purchased the Balmoral estate and which resulted in the excess of kitsch Scottish souvenirs but also helped to inspire modern Scottish nationalism.

The text is enhanced by the editor's preface, plus notes, bibliography and index of places visited.

Arthur Credland, 2006

Rene Bonnerjea *Eskimos in Europe-how they got there and what happened to them afterwards* 2005, 470pp. illustrated throughout (available from the author

175 Rosendale Road, LONDON SE21 8LW, £15).

A comprehensive account of the Eskimo brought to Europe from the 16th. to the early 20th. centuries, starting with the family brought to Elizabethan England by Fro-bisher in 1576.

The contact with aboriginal peoples is generally unhappy for the natives, as a result of misunderstanding, exploitation or the inevitable toll from diseases to which they had no immunity, as well as the problems of a healthy diet for those who were accustomed to eat fresh fish and meat with a minimum of cooking. John Sakehouse brought to Leith in Scotland, 1816 was one of the few Eskimo who totally adapted to an alien environment and unlike most others was eager to travel and discover the world beyond the Arctic.

Hull's involvement starts in the seventeenth century and the Hall expedition of 1613 from which Andrew Barker brought back the famous 'bonny boat', an Eskimo kayak complete with a figure dressed in sealskin clothing which still graces the premises of the Hull Trinity House and was remarked on by visitors to the city such as Celia Fiennes Daniel Defoe and others in their journals.

Uckaluk and Memiadluk brought to Hull by the whaler Truelove in 1847 are the best documented of our Arctic visitors and casts of their head taken by Keyworth the sculptor are displayed in the Maritime Museum. An Eskimo family brought into the port several years later was presented to Queen Victoria at Windsor Castle, 3 Feb. 1854, a most remarkable confrontation and it is a great pity we have no record of their own reactions to the event. Long before then, in 1654, another family was brought to the Danish court, and their excellent portraits in oils can still be seen in the royal collections at Copenhagen.

The reviewer could go on summarising the content of the book but instead recommends anyone interested in the inter reaction between whalers, explorers and the Eskimo people and the impact these exotic

strangers made in Europe to delve into this absorbing volume. Not the least amazing aspect of the story is that it began some 500 years ago!

Arthur Credland, 2006

Tony Watts *The Humber Yawl Club- a history* Highgate of Beverley 2005, 90pp.; illustrated throughout. ISBN 1902645 44 8 (available from Hull Maritime Museum, Queen Victoria Square, HULL HU1 3DX. £11 inc. p.and p).

The Humber Yawl Club celebrated its centenary in 1993 and now Tony Watts (current editor of their Year Book) has provided an excellent account of the club's history and the key characters involved in its development. Originally based on the river Hull the clubhouse is at Brough Haven on the north bank of the Humber with a secondary station at Winteringham on the Lincolnshire side of the river.

In the early days yachting was the pastime of kings, princes and the very rich but the 'Rob Roy' sailing canoe built in 1865 by John Rob Roy MacGregor (co-founder of the Boys Own Paper) created a huge interest throughout Europe. 1872 saw the formation in Hull, of the Eastern Branch of the Royal Canoe Club but the flimsy canoes gave the sailor a wet, uncomfortable and downright dangerous experience on the turbulent waters of the Humber. As a result the Eastern Branch faded away to be replaced in 1883 by the Humber Yawl Club its members using a more sturdy yawl rigged boat with a cabin. Still easily portable these craft could be conveyed to waterways throughout Britain and Europe and members cruised on canals, rivers and in the Baltic.

George Holmes was a founding father of the club and was responsible for many of the early designs; he was joined in 1891 by Albert Strange, now universally recognised as a major figure in the development of yacht design, who had recently been appointed principal of the Scarborough Art College. Both Holmes and Strange made contact with William P. Stephens of New York, who in 1883 had been appointed canoeing and yachting editor of Forest and

Stream, and was to become the doyen of American yachting. Strange had admired Stephenson's own contributions to the Forest and Stream and himself was a regular contributor to Yachting Monthly with notes on cruising, boat designs and the theory of design.

Uffa Fox submitted his challenge to Stephens for the American Canoe Association Trophy in 1933 and won it sailing under the burgee of the Humber Yawl Club. Back in 1922 Stephens had persuaded Fox to contribute 'Notes on Ocean Cruising' to the HYC Year Book. Fox is well known as the yachting mentor of HRH Prince Philip who in 1957 became an honorary member of the club. Appropriately in 1971, the Fox-designed Flying Fifteen was adopted for racing on the Humber.

There were many members who lived outside East Yorkshire but who made significant contributions to the Club's activities, including Dorothy Una Ratcliffe, writer, poet and devotee of Yorkshire dialect and the language and culture of the Romany, who joined in 1929. Many were regular contributors to the Year Book which is a key source for the history of the club's activities and since 1889 has included cruise notes and boat designs extensively illustrated with sketches and with a pictorial cover which is the subject of an annual competition. Along with many gifted amateurs a number of well-known artists have been involved, including Frank Mason (who with Charles Pears studied at Scarborough Art College), Fred Elwell R.A., who owned a sailing house boat rejoicing in the name of Cal-lathumpian. In 1923 Robin Balfour (later Lord Riversdale) an enthusiastic sportsman made his first contribution to the Year Book. Frank Carr recorder of historic craft and sometime director of the National Maritime Museum, also had links with the club and George Holmes provided material, originally published in the Year Book, for his book Vanishing Craft illustrated by Frank Mason. The Year Book has been produced continuously except for the years 1941-1945, the 1940 issue recording the death of George Holmes.

The transatlantic link between Stephens and Strange was crucial to the parallel development of the canoe yacht in Britain and America and among the Stephens papers in the Mystic Seaport Museum, Connecticut, is preserved the largest collection of original plans by Albert Strange in existence.

Arthur G.Credland, Hull Maritime Museum, 2006

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Burton Constable Foundation. *A Country House Sculpture Trail: Burton Constable, Burton Agnes, Sledmere*. 2006.

Cooke, David. *The Civil War in Yorkshire: Fairfax versus Newcastle*. Pen and Sword Books, 2004. £12.99

Mowl, Timothy. *William Kent: Architect, Designer, Opportunist*. Jonathan Cape, 2006. £25

Rhodes, Merrill. *Sutton, Bransholme and Wawne: Church and People – a Celebration*. Fully updated and revised edition. Highgate of Beverley, 2006. £14.95

Toomey, Mick. *The Fighting Men of Hull*. Fully Revised edition. 2006.

DVDs:

Yorkshire Film Archive. *Yorkshire Remembered: A Region at War*. 2006. £14.99.

Yorkshire Film Archive. *Yorkshire Remembered: From Coast to Country*. 2006. £14.99.

Local History Meetings & Events

Every Friday 10am - 2pm - *The Sutton Exhibition Room and Resource Centre* - History of Sutton village exhibition - Sutton C of E Educational Resource Centre, the Old School, Church Street, Sutton 10am - 2pm The Sutton Exhibition Room and Resource Centre open every Friday from 10am

until 2pm. Admission free. Coffee and biscuits 50p.

Every Friday 10am - 4pm - *Beverley Guildhall Community Museum* open free of charge - new exhibition 'The Swinemoor Estate'

Every Saturday & Sunday 10am - 5pm - *Skidby Windmill and Museum of East Riding Rural Life* (£1.50 entry charge) Bank Holidays and school holidays open Weds-Sun 10am-5pm - admission adults £1.50, children 50p, OAPS 80p

From Sunday 6 April 2006 *Arctic Corsair* reopens for free guided tours - open Weds, Saturday (first tour 10am, last 3pm) and Sun (first tour 1.30, last tour 3pm), and Bank Holiday Mons. - open until end of October,

Bayle Museum, Baylegate, Old Town, Bridlington - annual special exhibitions - open May - September 2006 Mon-Fri 10am-4pm, Sun 11am-4pm

Until end of September - *Hornsea Museum* open Tues -Sat 11am-5pm, Sundays 2pm-5pm. Historic farmhouse, local history displays, farmhouse kitchen, dairy, laundry, parlour, craft workshops and Victorian street scene, Hornsea Pottery collection, garden - admission £2.50 adults, children/OAPS/students £2

Until mid October 2006 - Beside The Seaside: *The Bridlington Experience*, 34-35 Queen Street, Bridlington 10am-5pm - admission adults £2 children £1

Until October 2006 - rememberfileybutlins exhibition at *Sewerby Hall*

Until end of October 2006 - *Withernsea Lighthouse Museum* - open weekends and Bank Holidays 1pm - 5pm. RNLI & HM Coastguard exhibits, history of shipwrecks, photographs of Victorian & Edwardian Withernsea, model ships, and Kay Kendall Memorial - admission adults £2, children £1, OAPS £1.50

Permanent exhibition - 'Telling Time', new permanent gallery exploring Hull & East Yorkshire clocks and their makers. A fine

collection of long-case and bracket clocks from the late 18th to the 19th century, many in full working order, as well as a fine collection of pocket watches and watch movements - includes children's activities - *Wilberforce House*, High Street, Hull

Until further notice - *Hedon Museum: The Hedon Room* - Hedon Museum, behind the Town Hall, St Augustine's Gate, Hedon (10am - 4pm Weds. and Sats. only) Tel (01482) 890908 for further details

Saturday 2nd - Sunday 3rd September. - SeaFever 2006, Hull's International Sea Shanty Festival. Hull Marina

1 - 30 September 2006 - Local and Community History month - *The Historical Association*

September 2006 A Lifetime's Reminiscences - Frank Yorke - *Hessle Local History Society* - Hessle Library

5 September 2005 - The History of Mills & Milling - Geoff Lee - *East Yorkshire Family History Society* Beverley meeting (date tbc)

7 - 10 September 2006 Heritage Open Days - *The Civic Trust/English Heritage* - visit <http://www.heritageopendays.org> for further details

11 September 2006 - *Humber Archaeology Forum* - Beverley Art Gallery 10am (venue to be confirmed)

12 September 2006 Workshop evening - Bridlington Group of *East Yorkshire Family History Society* - Lecture Room, Bridlington Library 7:30pm

15 September 2006 - CORAL *Conference of Regional & Local History Tutors in Tertiary Education Annual Conference* - Sport, Entertainment, Leisure and Local Identity - Peterborough College of Adult Education - further details from E. Lord, Tel (01954) 280281 email eal22@can.ac.uk

19 September 2006 - the poor Law - Margaret Oliver - *EYFHS* Hull

26 September 2006 - Filey Fishing Families - Andrew Todd - *EYFHS* Scarborough

3 October 2006 - Workshop evening - *EY-FHS* Beverley

October 2006 HUDC Landlord and Farmer - Keith Hare - *Hessle Local History Society* - Hessle Library (date tbc)

5-15 October 2006 - *Beverley Literature Festival* (www.beverley-literature-festival.org)

10 October 2006 - The Treasure House, Beverley - Alan Moir - Bridlington Group of *East Yorkshire Family History Society* - Lecture Room, Bridlington Library 7:30pm

14 October 2006 - Day school on Yorkshire antiquarians organised by the Medieval Section of the Yorkshire Archaeology Society in association with CBA (Yorkshire) and ERAS. Ferens Art Gallery, Hull, starts 9:45am; cost £10 including refreshments. Subjects include Sheppard, Mortimer, Thoresby, Wallace, etc.

17 October 2006 - Skeletons in the cupboard - Gareth Watkins - *EYFHS* Hull

Thursday 19 October 2006 Annual History Public Lecture, to be given by Professor James Walvin (University of York), on 'How should we remember the Slave Trade and William Wilberforce?', Leslie Downs Lecture Theatre in the Ferens Building, University of Hull Campus, Cottingham Road, Hull.

31 October 2006 - Irish Records - G. Collier - *EYFHS* Scarborough

14 November - Register of Deeds - Carole Boddington - Bridlington Group of *East Yorkshire Family History Society* - Lecture Room, Bridlington Library 7:30pm

November 2006 - Hessle in 1834 - Michael Free - *Hessle Local History Society* - Hessle Library

7 November 2006 - Genes for Genealogists - Gareth Watkins - *EYFHS* Beverley meeting

Saturday 11th November 2006, Beverley Minster: Local History Book Fair, 10am – 4pm.

21 November 2006 - Village Communities - Richard Walgate - *EYFHS* Hull

28 November 2006 - *EYFHS* Scarborough AGM

5 December 2006 - Christmas Social - *EY-FHS* Beverley meeting - Hull's Wartime Christmas - K. Thomas

12 December Christmas Social - Bridlington Group of *East Yorkshire Family History Society* - Lecture Room, Bridlington Library 7:30pm

Lunchtime Club

The Local and Family History Lunchtime club is returning to the Central Library, Albion Street, Hull from September. The event will be FREE again and the programme for the rest of 2006 is:

Tuesday 12th September - The East Yorkshire Local History Society: Members Current Research Projects

Tuesday 10th October – Dr. John Walker: Knight Templars of the East Riding

Tuesday 14th November – The Charterhouse of Hull

Tuesday 12th December – Question Time Panel of Local Experts

EAST YORKSHIRE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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